1	2	3	4
	Nationalised Banks	154	151
	Regional Rural Banks	163	157
	Indian Pvt. Ltd.	16	16
West Bengal	SBI and Associates	344	346
	Nationalised Banks	1188	1175
	Regional Rural Banks	750	754
ALL INDIA TOTAL:		33264	32512

SOURCE: Master Office File (latest updated version) On Commercial Banks

NOTE 1: Data are Revised.

2: Bank-Branch Data include Administrative Offices.

3: Population Group Classification is based on 1991 Census Data.

: These are newly created states, carved out of their respective parent states (#) in the year 2000. These states exist only in 2002. For comparison purpose, the same branches have been shown in 1993 also for that state.

Threat to aircrafts by hoax calls

*214. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI :
SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleassed to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of hoax calls posing threat to aircrafts has increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of hoax calls received during this year; and

(c) the action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) As against 45 bomb threat calls to aircraft during the year 2001, only 30 bomb threat calls have been received during the year 2002, till November, 2002.

(c) All operational and important telephones at civil airports have been provided with the Caller Line Identification Procedure Facility. There are instructions to impart suitable training to the staff for handling such calls and ensuring a mechanism for regular checking of the functionality of the facility.

LPG as auto fuel

†*215. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG) is an eco-friendly fuel for auto vehicles;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to encourage the use of LPG as a fuel for auto vehicles;

(c) whether Government propose to maintain a suitable difference between the price of petrol and LPG so that people are encouraged to use LPG instead of petrol; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) At present, the country is deficit in Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and the gap between demand and indigenous production is being met through imports. Keeping this in view, Government have allowed the use the LPG as auto fuel through imports only. The Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are planning to make available LPG as auto fuel in selected cities in the country, in the first phase. Pricing of auto LPG and petrol is being done by OMCs on commercial considerations.

Waiver of loans of small farmers

†*216. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI :
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA :

Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are contemplating to waive loans of small

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.